

VZCZCXYZ0000
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHKO #4970 2970810
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 240810Z OCT 07
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8900
INFO RUEHZJ/HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 6583
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 3167

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 004970

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

FOR DRL/MLGA LYNN SICADE AND SYLVIA HAMMOND, IO/RHS AMY
OSTERMEIER OR DEEPA GHOSH

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/22/2017
TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [UN](#) [KTIA](#) [JA](#)
SUBJECT: JAPAN'S STRATEGY FOR THE THRID COMMITTEE

REF: STATE 145641

Classified By: Ambassador J. Thomas Schieffer for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

¶1. (U) This cable contains an action request. Please see paragraph 4.

¶2. (C) Embassy Tokyo Political Officer delivered reftel demarche October 21 and followed up October 22 with MOFA Human Rights Division Principal Deputy Director Takako Ito. Ito gave the following outline of Japan's strategy for the upcoming UN Third Committee session:

"No-Action Motions:" Japan takes a principled stance against "No-Action" motions, and the United States "can count on Japan" to oppose any that are filed.

Country-specific resolutions: Japan is "cautious about the developing world's reaction" to country-specific resolutions, but supports their adoption in the Third Committee.

Iran: Japan will support a resolution on Iran, but is not planning to co-sponsor.

Belarus: Japan plans to support a resolution, but hopes that "if there is any positive information about human rights in Belarus," that it be included "to enhance the credibility of the drafter."

Burma: Japan is expecting the EU to table a resolution on Burma, and intends to support it, with the same hopes that any potential positive information be included in the language of the resolution. Ito requested that the United States provide draft language as soon as possible.

DPRK: Japan has drafted a resolution, and is "counting on the United States to co-sponsor."

Rape as an Instrument of State Policy: Japan is "very grateful for the State Department's leadership" in addressing its concerns that the comfort women issue not be ensnared by the language of the resolution. "Assuming the discussion proceeds in the current direction," Japan will support the resolution.

Elections: Japan supports and may be willing to co-sponsor the resolution, but is waiting to see the draft language.

Defamation of Religion: Japan must see the draft language before deciding its policy, but "will probably abstain or oppose" the resolution.

Death Penalty: Japan has heard that the EU will propose two resolutions, one calling for a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, and another calling for the abolition of the death penalty. Japan will oppose both, and expects the United States to do the same.

13. (C) Japan has heard that some members of the Human Rights Council may call for a reopening of the Council Chairman's Statement, adopted in the Human Rights Council by consensus in June, during the Third Committee session. Japan strongly opposes reopening the statement, which would "make the Human Rights Council meaningless," and would be grateful for any information the United States might have about this possibility.

14. (U) ACTION REQUEST: Post requests guidance on how to respond to Japan's request for information about a possible reopening of the Human Rights Council Chairman's statement.
SCHIEFFER